

# **EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

**East Providence City Hal**

**145 Taunton Avenue**

**East Providence, Rhode Island**

**September 11, 2006**

## **Open Session**

**Mr. Gouveia, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30PM. School Committee members present: Robert Faria, Eileen Lovett, David Medeiros, and Antone Gouveia. Also present: Dr. Jacqueline B. Forbes, Superintendent; and Andrew A. Thomas, Esq., Assistant Legal Counsel. A motion was made by Mr. Medeiros to move to Executive Session in accordance with RI General Laws, Section 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel and (a)(2) Litigation, seconded by Mr. Faria. Vote 4-0.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Medeiros to return to public session at 7:30 PM, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Medeiros to seal the minutes of the Executive Session, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

**Pledge of Allegiance.** The School Committee proceeded to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Mrs. Lovett.

**Moment of Silence.** The School Committee observed a moment of silence.

**Record of Previous Meetings.** A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to approve the minutes of the previous meetings (August 7, 2006 and August 22, 2006) seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.

**Chair's Report.** Mr. Gouveia indicated that in view of the fact this was an election year, he wanted to nip in the bud various claims being circulated about who was to blame for the state of the budget. Mr. Gouveia indicated that to save the City money during the budget crises several years back, the teachers had forgone a raise they would have received under their old contract in exchange for a lower raise and a three year extension of their contract. At the time, City officials praised the teachers for their efforts, and the new contract that was negotiated with the teachers. Now, however, in this election year, certain City officials seek to condemn that same teachers' contract. Mr. Gouveia indicated that it was time to put an end to pointing fingers as to who was to blame for the budget, and that it was time to get down to a meaningful discussion with the City on constructively solving budget issues.

**Hearings. None.**

**Reading of Communications. Mr. Gouveia discussed Dr. Forbes's letter of September 8, 2006 to Commissioner McWalters, and the Commissioner's response to the same regarding the reduction in Medicaid reimbursement.**

**Report of Superintendent and Staff.**

**1) High School Attendance/Tardy Report. Principal Edward Daft and Assistant Principal Raymond Lombardo presented a report on efforts that had been made at the High School to improve attendance and reduce tardiness.**

**2) FY 2006-2007 Budget Update. Dr. Forbes presented an update regarding the budget that had been forwarded to the City and joint workshops with the City to discuss the budget. Dr. Forbes indicated that the City's budget hearings would be considered as joint workshops.**

**3) FY 2005-06 Financial Report. Dr. Hilton presented information regarding School Department expenditures as of August 31, 2006. Dr. Hilton indicated that the School Department was operating within its budget.**

**4) Awarding of Bids. None.**

**5) Personnel Recommendations. Mrs. Rodericks presented the Superintendent's recommendations for the following appointments: Elizabeth Pacheco, Math Teacher, Senior High School; Cari Ravo, Junior Class Advisor, Senior High School; and Joyce Renaud, Supervisory Assistant, Myron J. Francis Elementary School. Motion made by Mrs. Morris to accept the Superintendent's recommendations for appointments, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

**Mrs. Rodericks presented the Superintendent's recommendations for the following resignations: Richard Iozzi, Vocational Auto Mechanics, Career Technical Center, effective 8/28/06; and Nero Keaton, Math Teacher, Senior High School, effective 8/15/06. Motion made by Mr. Morris to accept the Superintendents recommendations for resignations, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.**

**6) Facilities Update. Mr. Mutter presented an update regarding work at the Silver Spring Elementary School, the Career Technical Center, and the Orlo Avenue Elementary School.**

**7) Requests for Home Schooling. Mr. Rodericks presented reports dated August 29, 2006 and September 8, 2006 for 17 students to be home schooled. Motion made by Mr. Medeiros to approve the home schooling requests as presented, seconded by Mrs. Morris. Vote 5-0.**

**8) Superintendent's Contract.** Mr. Gouveia presented information regarding Dr. Forbes's contract and he indicated that the Superintendent's contract had built in minimum base salary increases of 1%, plus performance merit increases of up to 2.5%, and that the contract had been agreed to in principal. Motion by Mrs. Lovett to approve in principal the Superintendent's contract, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.

**Report of Sub-Committees.** Mrs. Lovett reported that the Annual Townie Parade would be held on October 13, 2006. Mr. Medeiros indicated that a meeting of the Wellness Committee would be held on September 21, 2006.

**Unfinished Business.** None.

**New Business.**

**1) Building Use Policy – First Passage.** The Building Use Policy contains a 20% energy surcharge assessed on all building rentals. Motion by Mr. Faria to approve first passage of the Building Use Policy, seconded by Mrs. Morris. Vote: 5-0.

**2) Running Start Program.** Dr. Forbes presented requests from two High School Seniors to attend the Running Start Program at CCRI for school year 2006-07. Motion by Mrs. Morris to approve the requests to

**attend the Running Start Program, seconded by Mrs. Lovett. Vote 5-0.**

**Payment of Bills.**

**Local Operating Bill List:**

**Warrant # 000678 8/29/06 \$1,242, 847.89**

**Motion by Mrs. Morris to approve payment, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0**

**Question and Answer Period. No questions from the audience.**

**A motion was made by Mrs. Morris to adjourn at 8:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Medeiros. Vote 5-0.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Andrew A. Thomas, Assistant Legal Counsel**

**David Medeiros, Clerk of the Committee**